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The Honorable Warren G. Magnuson  
Chairman, Committee on Interstate  
and Foreign Commerce  
United States Senate  
Washington 25, D. C.

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Dear Mr. Chairman:

I have given careful consideration to your letter of 17 May 1956 requesting a full report of the investigation currently underway concerning any violation of existing security regulations with respect to a visit of Soviet representatives to the State of Washington. You state the urgency of the need that immediate steps be taken by the Departments of State, Defense, Justice and the Central Intelligence Agency to close the State of Washington to Soviet representatives.

I regret if any misunderstanding has arisen concerning the function of the Central Intelligence Agency in an investigation relating to the possible closing of certain areas within the United States to Soviet representatives for reasons of internal security.

This Agency, under the National Security Act of 1947, is prohibited from exercising any internal security functions. Our mission is, therefore, a contributory one in matters of this kind, and consists of ensuring that pertinent intelligence information is passed on to those agencies of the Government who have responsibilities in the internal security field.

It is my understanding that the appropriate agencies within the Government are investigating the situation discussed in your letter, and that they will report directly to you on the matter.

Sincerely yours,

IG:NSP:fm (5 Jun 56)

Draft prepared by: os/ps:cvb:skh

Cleared by:

Director of Security

SIGNED

Allen W. Dulles

Director

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